

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VANCOU 00307 052003Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02
PRS-01 EURE-00 /118 W
-----052018Z 072257 /45

P 952030Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3406
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 0307

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
SUBJECT: ENERGY: NATURAL GAS EXPORTS

REF VANCOUVER 275

1. B.C. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 4 THAT IT SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF WESTCOAST TRANSMISSION TO OBTAIN ALBERTA GAS FOR EXPORT TO THE U.S. PACIFIC NORTHWEST. UNDER THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WESTCOAST AND PAN-ALBERTA, WHICH MINES AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES MINISTER CHABOT UNDERSTANDS WAS TO HAVE BEEN SIGNED LATE APRIL 4, WESTCOAST WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN UP TO 200 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF GAS DAILY FOR TWELVE YEARS (UNTIL 1989) TO MEET ITS SHORTFALL IN EXPORTS TO THE U.S. (THE AVERAGE SHORTFALL IN 1976 WAS 226 MILLION CUBIC FEET DAILY.)

2. B.C. GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT A 12-YEAR COMMITMENT BY WESTCOAST TO ALBERTA GAS WOULD DEPRESS GAS EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES IN B.C. WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN WITH A VIEW TO MEETING WESTCOAST'S EXPORT DEFICIENCIES. UNDER WHAT WE UNDERSTAND TO BE A COMPROMISE AGREEMENT WORKED OUT BETWEEN B.C. AND ALBERTA, WESTCOAST'S
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 VANCOU 00307 052003Z

REQUIRED LOAD FACTOR IS SET AT ONLY 72 PERCENT, MEANING THAT WESTCOAST MUST ONLY PURCHASE 144 MILLION CUBIC FEET DAILY, ALTHOUGH THE FULL 200 MILLION CUBIC FEET DAILY IS AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED. FURTHERMORE, THE CONTRACT COVERING 55 MILLION CUBIC

FEET OF THE TOTAL 200 MILLION CUBIC FEET PACKAGE CAN BE TERMINATED
ON OCTOBER 1, 1981 IF SUFFICIENT B.C. GAS BECOMES AVAILABE FOR
EXPORT BY THAT DATE.

3. CONGEN ECONOMIC OFFICER, ON BASIS OF MEETING IN VICTORIA IN
DECEMBER, TELEPHONED MINISTER CHABOT ON APRIL 4 TO LEARN STATUS
OF GAS AGREEMENT. CHABOT STATED THAT THE B.C. GOVERNMENT HAD NOT
BEEN TRYING TO PREVENT WESTCOAST FROM MEETING ITS OBLIGATIONS TO
THE
US, BUT RATHER HAD BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT PROTECTING B.C.'S OWN
MARKETS AND GAS EXPLORATION EFFORTS. B.C., HE SAID, HAD ALWAYS
WANTED TO SEE THAT THE EXPORT DEFICIENCIES WERE OVERCOME.
LUPPI

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, EXPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NATURAL GAS, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VANCOU00307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770118-0825
Format: TEL
From: VANCOUVER
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704101/aaaafshf.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 76f2b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VANCOUVER 275
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2664372
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970829
Subject: ENERGY: NATURAL GAS EXPORTS
TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/76f2b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009